

Official Minutes for Webb County
Commissioners Court Special Meeting
Public Hearing on Proposed Tax Rate

Friday, September 15, 2005 at 1:00 PM
(Approved 10-24-2005)

- Item No. 1 Call to order by Judge Louis H. Bruni
Let it be remembered that a special meeting of the Webb County Commissioners Court was held at 1:00 p.m. at the regular meeting place with the following members present to wit:

Louis H. Bruni	County Judge
Frank Sciaraffa	Commissioner, Pct. 1
Judith Gutierrez	Commissioner, Pct. 2
Jerry Garza	Commissioner, Pct. 3
Cindy Cortez-Brunner	Commissioner, Pct. 4

Thus constituting a quorum, the Commissioners Court proceeded to act upon the Agenda as posted in the meeting notice of the 9th of September 2005. Present also were Ms. Nora Elia Prado, Deputy County Clerk representing Mrs. Margie Ramirez Ibarra, Ex-officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court, various officers and others interested in the business of the Court.

- Item No. 2 Roll Call – Margie Ramirez Ibarra, Webb County Clerk

- Item No. 3 Pledge of Allegiance – Led by all

- Item No. 4 S.B. No. 19 Public Hearing on Tax Increase. Last year, the Webb County property tax rate was .457923. That rate raised \$39,579,834.00, a portion of which was used to fund operations such as law enforcement, judicial functions, county government, health and welfare, recreation and culture, community service and other sources and uses. This year, Webb County is proposing a property tax rate of .437923. That tax rate will raise \$42,372,667.00 which is \$2,792,833.00 more than the taxes imposed last year. There will be two public hearings to consider that increase. This public hearing will be the first of the two public hearings to consider that increase. The second public hearing will be held on September 15, 2005 at the Webb County Courthouse, 1000 Houston, Laredo, Texas. You have the right to attend the hearings and make comments. You are encouraged to attend and make comments if you wish.

Comr. Gutierrez motioned to open the Public Hearing. Comr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

PUBLIC HEARING

Judge Bruni stated that the proposed tax rate for this coming year would be .437923, the same as the current year. He stated that this would result in tax revenues of \$42,372,667, \$2,792,833 more than the current year. He stated that the first Public Hearing was held on September 9th and today is the final Public Hearing. He stated that no one had signed up for Public Comments but would accept anyone who wished to address the court.

Comr. Gutierrez stated that the new valuations have to be taken into account since they are the main reasoning for the increase in tax revenues. She stated that the tax rate did not increase and that Webb County was the only entity to keep the same tax rate.

Comr. Gutierrez motioned to close the Public Hearing. Comr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Carlos Villarreal, Executive Administrator, stated that as per his discussions with the court, it seemed that everyone wished to hold a budget workshop to discuss any budget amendments, additions and deletions to avoid doing so on the day the budget is to be approved on September 26th. Mr. Raul Casso, Chief of Staff, stated that the Court Coordinator, Ms. Yolanda Carrillo, would speak with members of the court to see what date for favorable for everyone.

Item No. 5 Adjourn

Comr. Gutierrez motioned to adjourn the meeting. Comr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.